

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

NEWS RELEASE



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2013 Yukon River Summer Salmon Fishery News Release #56

Summer Announcement #51, District 1 and District 2 Commercial Fishing Periods

Districts Affected: Lower Yukon Area

The preliminary commercial harvest in Districts 1 and 2 combined through July 9 is approximately 308,000 summer chum salmon with a reported 957 Chinook salmon released and 199 Chinook salmon caught but not sold. The Yukon River sonar at Pilot Station estimates the summer chum salmon passage at approximately 2.5 million fish which is well above the median of 1.7 million for this date.

Based on the abundance of summer chum salmon and the low impact to Chinook salmon observed in the commercial fishery to date, this announcement opens one commercial fishing period in District 1 and one commercial fishing period in District 2.

District 1 Commercial Gillnet Salmon Fishing: Commercial salmon fishing in the entire District 1 area will be open for one 9-hour period from 3:00 p.m. Thursday, July 11, until 12:00 midnight Thursday, July 11, with gillnets restricted to 6-inch or smaller mesh size to target summer chum salmon.

Once again, all of District 1 is open for commercial fishing during this period with gillnets restricted to 6-inch or smaller mesh size.

District 2 Commercial Gillnet Salmon Fishing: As previously announced, commercial salmon fishing in District 2 will be open for one 4-hour period from 4:00 p.m. Wednesday, July 10, until 8:00 p.m. Wednesday, July 10, with gillnets restricted to 6-inch or smaller mesh size to target summer chum salmon.

Additionally, commercial salmon fishing in District 2 will be open for one 4-hour period from 6:00 p.m. Thursday, July 11, until 10:00 p.m. Thursday, July 11, with gillnets restricted to 6-inch or smaller mesh size to target summer chum salmon.

Commercial gillnet fishermen can release live Chinook salmon or retain them for subsistence purposes. The sale of Chinook salmon is prohibited and Chinook salmon caught but not sold must be reported on fish tickets.

Fishermen in District 1 and District 2 should stand by for short notice news releases on VHF and radio regarding commercial salmon fishing opportunity.

The subsistence fishing schedule and recorded fishery announcements will be available 24 hours a day at 1-866-479-7387 or in Fairbanks call (907) 459-7387. If you have any questions regarding this report, please call the ADFG office in Emmonak at 949-1320 or the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Fairbanks at 456-0418.

This has been an announcement by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in cooperation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

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